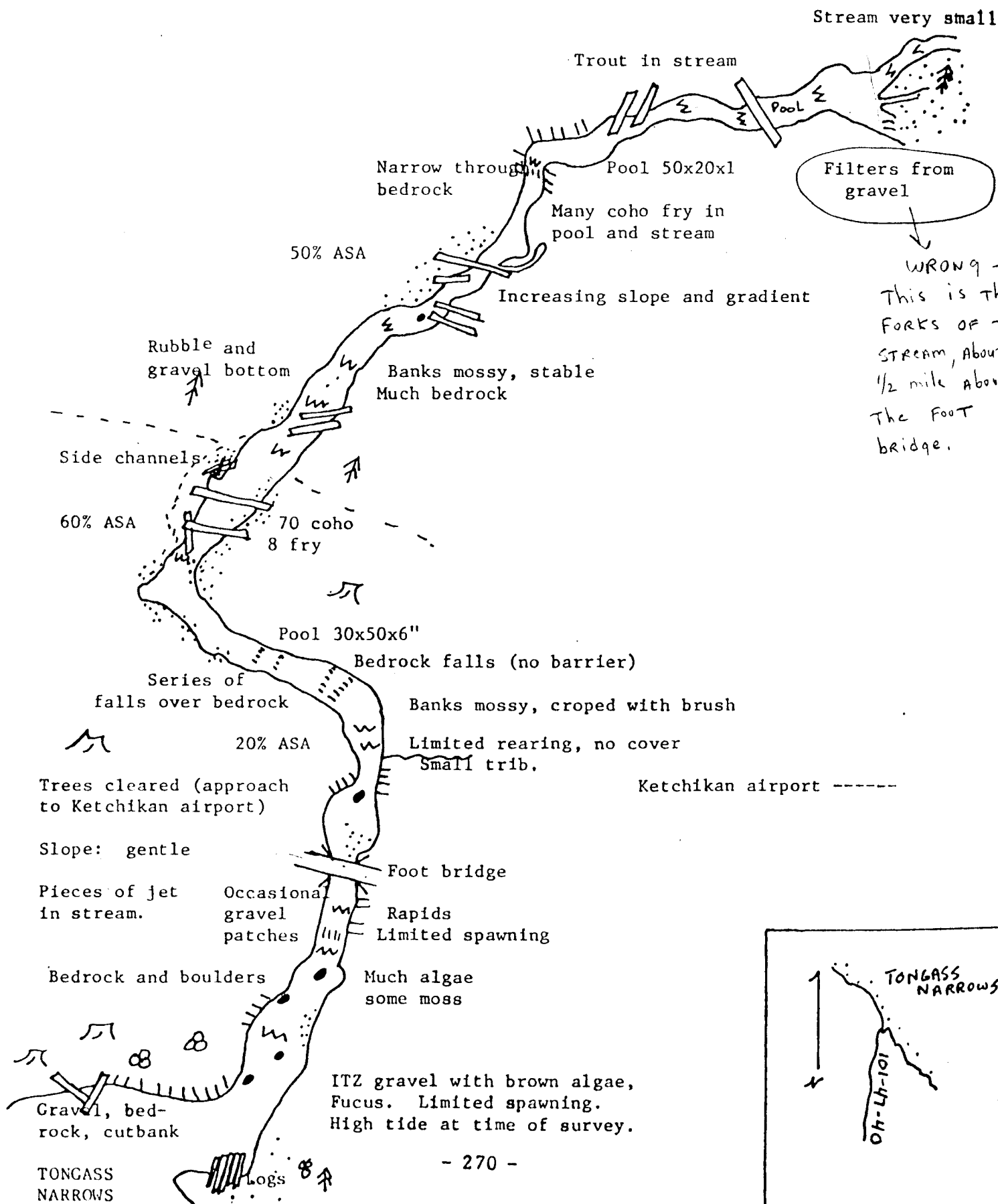


WEATHER: Overcast, 62°F
 TREES: Hemlock, cedar
 WATER: Dark brown, clear, supply -
 small lakes, muskeg, runoff
 flow about 7 cfs.

101-47-40
 Government Creek
 Jackinsky
 7-12-76

101-47-10400



MEMORANDUM

State of Alaska

TO: Mike Haddix
Lake & Stream Proj. Leader
F.R.E.D.
Ketchikan

DATE: March 2, 1978

FILE NO:

TELEPHONE NO:

FROM: Gerry D. Downey
Fishery Technician
F.R.E.D.
Ketchikan

SUBJECT: Government Creek

On 3-1-78 Mike Haddix, Gerry Downey and Bryan Rahe walked Government Creek (Gravina Island) for the first time. The following minnow trap data was collected:

Trap #	Location	Set Time	# Fish Captured
1	100 yds. above cleared trees.	4 hr 10 min	4 coho fry
2	Just above 4' falls.	3 hr 15 min	0 fry
3	Upper left fork almost to lake.	35 min	0 fry
4	Upper sloughs near left hand lake.	15 min	0 fry
5	Just up the right hand fork.	50 min	1 coho fry

Our purpose here was two-fold. First, as this was reportedly a good coho stream, we wanted to find out why. Secondly, we wanted to find out how many coho fry and smolts were here to determine if it was practical to tag coho smolts leaving the system this spring.

It took us two hours of slow - observation type walking to get to the upper left fork lake (looking upstream). We then walked up the right hand fork at a brisk pace for 25 minutes to a total barrier falls. We stopped at this falls and did not get to the lake on this fork. We spent a total of five hours walking this system but much of it was slowing walking to look for fry.

There was thin clear ice over about 50% of the stream. It is a small stream, 4-6" deep and 8-10' wide with much bedrock and not much pool area in the stream. There is better rearing area in the stream up near the lake.

My first impression here is that there were not very many coho fry or smolts present. This is based on the fact that very few fry were seen throughout the system. We're keeping an open mind however, and have more work to do here before final conclusions are drawn.



Lower end of Government Creek. Ketchikan in background. The lower end of the stream was cleared for airplane takeoffs at the International Airport.



Falls on the main stream of Government Creek. One coho fry captured above the falls. It may be a deterrent to migrating cohos.



Bryan Rahe standing in slough area near 1st lake on the left fork of Government Creek.



Upper area of
Government Creek,
left fork near
lake.



General picture
to show some
stream character-
istics of Govern-
ment Creek.



Beaver dam,
slough area near
1st lake on the
left fork of
Government Creek.



General picture
to show some
stream character-
istics of Govern-
ment Creek.



Upper area of
Government Creek,
left fork near
lake.



Fork on Govern-
ment Creek, ap-
proximately 1 mi.
above high tide.
Left fork, look-
ing upstream,
goes to lake.
Right fork goes
to big falls.



*Barrier falls on the
right fork of Govern-
ment Creek. Approx.
12-15' falls.*